



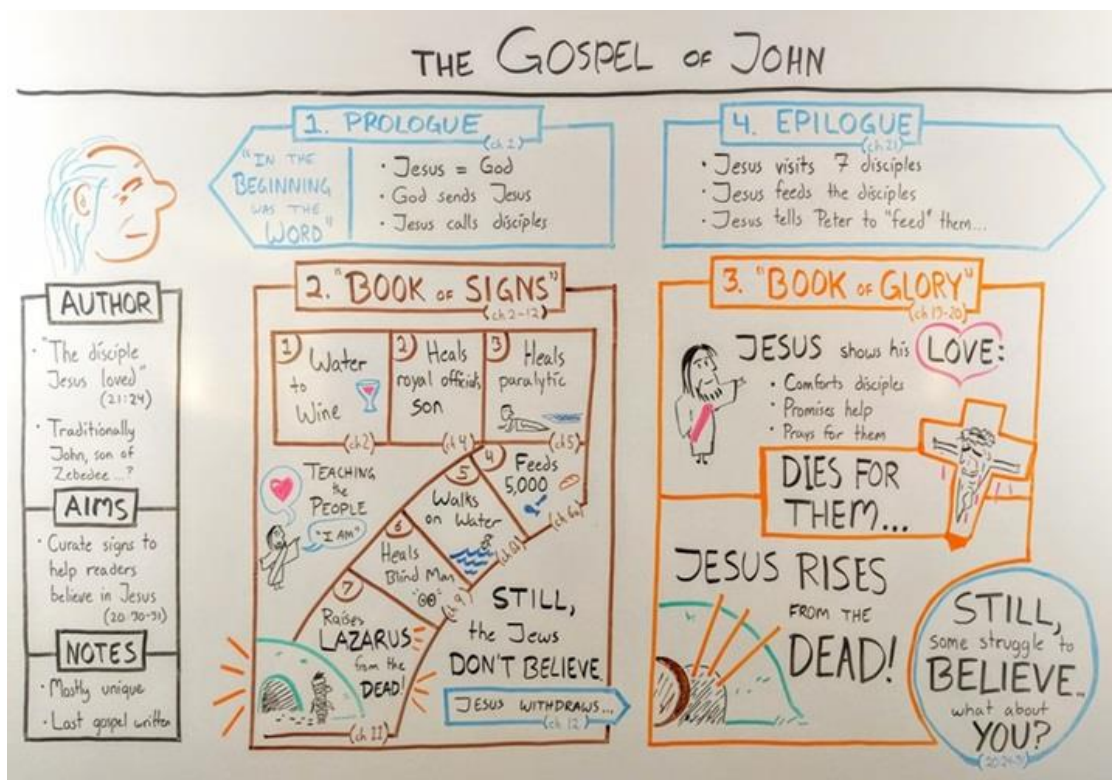
My Drift

Title: Bible – Book of John

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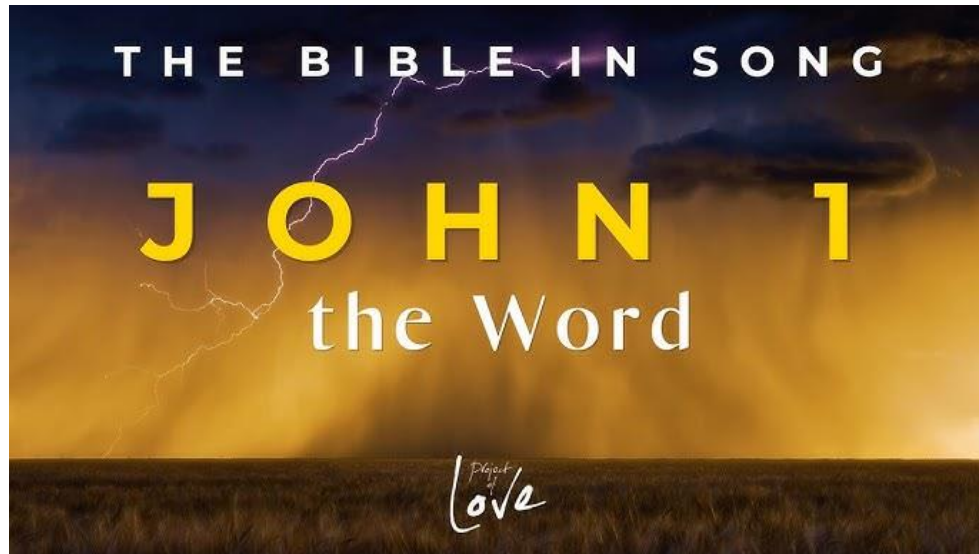
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The Book of John: Chapter-by-Chapter Summary

Chapter 1

The book of John starts with the words “In the beginning,” which are the same words that open the book of Genesis.



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. — John 1:1

In the first verses of John, Jesus is referred to as “the Word.” John says that Jesus was with God and that Jesus was God. He says that all things were created through Jesus. John continues to tell us about John the Baptist and how he came to show us the way to Jesus.

In the early parts of this chapter, we get a promise: “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name...”

Continuing on in the chapter, we are told that Jesus came into the flesh. We are again told that John was sent to pave the way for Jesus. We are told that John sees the spirit of God descending on Jesus like a dove. Later, Jesus passes by, and two of John’s disciples go and instead follow Jesus. The chapter ends with Jesus collecting quite a few early disciples.

Chapter 2

Jesus performs his first miracle in this chapter. Having been invited to a wedding in which they had run out of wine, and having been encouraged by his mother, Jesus miraculously transforms water into high-quality wine.



Jesus Changes Water into Wine

Later in the chapter, Jesus goes to Jerusalem for Passover. When he enters the temple and sees the people buying and selling inside, he makes a whip and clears their businesses from the temple. Seeing this, the disciples remember a verse from the Old Testament: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

The Jews in the temple then ask for a sign of Jesus’s authority to do what he has done. He responds by telling them that he can rebuild the temple in three days. It is revealed that the disciples remembered this after his death and resurrection, and this was part of why they believed.

Chapter 3

In this chapter, Jesus meets a Pharisee by the name of Nicodemus. Jesus tells Nicodemus that one must be born again in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Nicodemus does not understand. Jesus explains by saying that one must be born of water and the Holy Spirit in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Still not understanding, Nicodemus has Jesus explain further. Jesus tells him that the Messiah must be lifted up just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert. Jesus tells of God’s immense love for mankind and says that he sent his only son as a sacrifice so that men might be saved from their sins. Jesus explains that anyone who believes in the Son of God is not condemned.

Chapter 4

This chapter tells the story of Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at a well. He tells her of wells of living water that Jesus will give upon asking. Jesus also tells

the woman that she does not have a husband and that she has been divorced five times. She is amazed that he knows her life story. She goes back into the town and tells everyone what happened at the well. They are amazed, and many believe Him because of her. He stays for two days, and many more come to believe because of what he says. Later, Jesus is approached by an official who asks him to heal his son. Jesus does so.

Chapter 5

Jesus performs yet another great miracle in this chapter. He sees a paralyzed man lying on the ground, waiting to enter into a healing pool. Jesus tells this man to pick up his mat and walk. This exasperates the Pharisees as it is the Sabbath. Jesus responds by saying that his father is working on the Sabbath and, therefore, he will work on the Sabbath.



Jesus Heals Paralyzed Man Lying on the Ground

This is given as a reason that the Jews try to kill him later. Not only is Jesus working on the Sabbath, but he is also claiming to be one with the Father. After this, Jesus goes into a long speech that most people truly do not understand. He seems to be talking about himself almost as if he were representing himself in a legal case. He calls witnesses to the fact that he is the son of God—but he also seems to be saying that he does not trust human witnesses and that one who is greater than human serves as his witness. But then he circles back and calls John as a witness. It is hard to understand exactly what he is saying, but it seems to be a legal defense of his claim to be the Messiah.

Chapter 6

This chapter gives us the famous story of Jesus feeding the five thousand. With nothing more than five loaves of bread and two fishes, Jesus somehow manages to feed five thousand people. It is an incredible miracle.

Jesus continues to amaze in this chapter by walking on water. Later, when the crowd that he had fed followed him to the other shore, Jesus calls them out,

saying that they are only following because he fed them. He then tells them that he is the bread of life and that the one that comes to him will not be hungry or thirsty. He also says that anyone who eats this bread of life will have eternal life and that the life of this world is his flesh.



Jesus Feeds 5,000 People



Jesus Walks on Water

Jesus continues to teach his disciples. He tells them that these words do not benefit the flesh but instead the spirit. He also tells them that no one can come to him unless God the Father has allowed them to do so.

Chapter 7

In this chapter, Jesus's brothers try to convince him to go publicly to the feast in Jerusalem. He tells them that it is not yet his time. After they leave, Jesus goes up to Jerusalem in private for the feast.

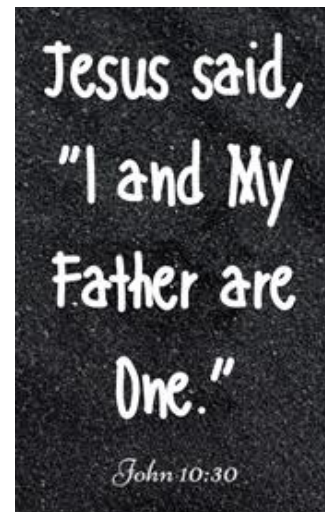
Later, he goes to the temple and begins to teach. The people are amazed by his teaching because he had received no training. He tells the people that he is going to a place where they cannot go, and they are puzzled by this. Later, some of the Jews begin to think that he is the Messiah, whereas others do not believe this. Some of them, in fact, wanted to kill him.

Chapter 8

This chapter contains one of the most vivid scenes in the Bible. The Pharisees bring Jesus a woman who was caught in the act of adultery. They ask Jesus if they ought to stone her according to the Law of Moses. Jesus says, "He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." One by one, everyone leaves the room, convicted of their own sin. Jesus tells the woman that he will not convict her either—and that she should go and not sin.

Jesus goes on to preach that he is the light of the world. The Jews say that he is testifying about himself and that, therefore, the testimony cannot be believed. But Jesus says that the testimony of two men is true and that He and his father both testify on his behalf.

Then Jesus enters into a debate with the Pharisees. He tells them that they are of their father, the Devil, whereas he is of his father, God. Finally, a dramatic moment comes when Jesus says, "Truly, truly, I say to you before Abraham was born, I am." This is an important statement. Essentially, Jesus is claiming to be God.



Did Jesus claim to be God in the Book of John?

Yes - indirectly, here are the verses:

John 1:1

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God". "The Word" is a translation of the Greek logos, which is often interpreted as referring to Jesus.

John 8:19

Jesus says, "To know Me is to know God".

John 10:29-33

Jesus says, "I and the Father are one". The Jewish listeners respond, "You, a mere man, claim to be God".

John 8:58-59

Jesus says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am". Jesus uses the title "I AM", which is the name God uses for himself in Exodus 3:14. The Jewish leaders pick up stones to throw at Jesus for blasphemy.

John 5:18

Jesus claims authority over the Sabbath and calls God his own Father. The Jewish leaders want to kill Jesus for blasphemy.

Chapter 9

This chapter begins when Jesus heals a blind man. This creates some controversy in the local synagogue, as the Pharisees cannot agree on whether Jesus is from God or not. They say that the signs could only be performed by one from God, but since he did it on the Sabbath, he must not be from God. They spend much time questioning the man who was healed before reaching the decision that Jesus must not be from God because he healed on the Sabbath. They then throw the healed man out of the synagogue.

Jesus hears about this and comes to talk to the man he healed. He asks him if he believes in the Son of Man, and the man says he would if he knew who it was. Jesus tells him that He is the Son of Man. Here again, Jesus claims to be divine.

Chapter 10

In this chapter, Jesus gives us the parable of the door into the sheep pen. He says that anyone who doesn't go through the door is a thief. He then says that he is the door, and he says that he is the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. Then he talks about having other sheep and how he will unite them with his current flock as one flock.

The people who hear this parable are divided in their reactions; some think he is crazy, whereas others think he is brilliant. The Pharisees surround him in the temple and ask him to tell them if he is the Christ. He tells them that he already told them. Then, he again claims to be equal with God. This incites the Pharisees to attempt to kill him by stoning—but he escapes.

Chapter 11

Jesus's friend Lazarus dies in this chapter. Jesus hears that Lazarus is sick, but instead of rushing to him he takes his time, saying that the sickness will not end in death but in the glory of the lord.



Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

When Jesus finally arrives at the home, he is told that Lazarus is dead. He goes to the tomb and tells Lazarus to come out—and he does!

Hearing that Jesus is performing lots of miracles, the Pharisees hold a meeting to decide what to do. They are afraid that everyone in Judea will start following Jesus, which might cause the Romans to come in and defeat them. They decide to form a plan to kill Jesus.

Chapter 12

This chapter begins with Mary anointing Jesus. She breaks open an expensive jar of perfume, pours it over him, and wipes his feet with her hair. Judas asks if the perfume should have been sold to raise money for the poor. Jesus, knowing that Judas's intent is to steal, says that the poor will always be around but that he (Jesus) will not be around much longer.

The chapter continues with Jesus's triumphant and glorified entry into Jerusalem. People gather in the streets and lay palm fronds on the ground for Jesus and his donkey to walk upon. The people cheer and yell, "Save us!"

In Jerusalem, some Greeks are looking for Jesus. He speaks to them and says that he who loses his life will gain it. Then he says that his "soul is troubled." The crowd hears a voice from heaven, like thunder or an angel, but it is the voice of God speaking to Jesus. Jesus then, in essence, says that he is going to die. He tells the people to listen to him again.

Chapter 13

This is the chapter in which Jesus washes the feet of the disciples. He tells them that he is setting an example that they should follow. He says that if he, the teacher, is doing it, then they should also do it.

Later in the chapter, Jesus predicts that Judas will betray him. Interestingly, Judas still betrays him. The Bible says that Satan entered Judas. If this is true, did Judas have a choice as to whether he would betray Jesus or not? Also, in this chapter, Jesus predicts that Peter will deny him.

Chapter 14

This chapter begins with Jesus basically telling the disciples that everything is going to be okay. But they don't seem to understand. Thomas tells Jesus that they do not know where he is going. Jesus again says that he is the Messiah. He tells them that if they ask anything in his name, they will receive it. He tells them about the Holy Spirit, and he says that the Spirit will come to them and

help them. He says that the Holy Spirit will help them to remember everything that he said and that the spirit will always be with them.

In the Gospel of John, the Holy Spirit is described as:

A teacher: The Holy Spirit teaches the disciples truth and reminds them of what Jesus said.

A witness: The Holy Spirit testifies to Jesus and represents the truth about him.

A gift from God: The Holy Spirit is an eschatological gift from God.

A guide: The Holy Spirit guides people into the truth of what God has revealed.

A dweller: The Holy Spirit dwells in people.

A convict: The Holy Spirit convicts people.

A glorifier: The Holy Spirit glorifies the Son.

The Holy Spirit is also known as the Paraclete and the Spirit of Truth. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to the disciples to help them understand Jesus's union with the Father. The Holy Spirit's role was to come after Jesus left to atone for sins and to mediate Christ's forgiveness.

Chapter 15

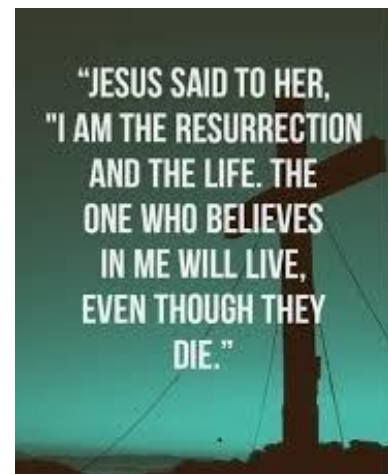
In this chapter, we hear the parable of the vine and the branches. Jesus says that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches. He says that if someone wants to bear fruit, like the fruit of the spirit, he will abide in Jesus, just as a branch that produces fruit abides in the vine.

He goes on to tell the disciples that they must love each other just like he loves them. Then he tells them that the world might hate them but that that will be okay because the world hated him first. They should not be surprised if they are met with hatred. He says that this is done to fulfill scripture: "They hated me without a cause."

Chapter 16



Jesus Predicts his Death a Third Time



Jesus tells the disciples that they will be kicked out of the synagogue and that people will try and kill them. Jesus again tells them about the Holy Spirit, whom he calls the Helper. Once again, he predicts his own death and prophesies that he will be raised from the dead. He explains that he is revealing these truths so that they will be at peace. He says that even though they struggle in the world, they will have peace in him.

Chapter 17

Jesus offers a prayer before his death. He asks that God glorify him and glorify himself through him. Then he prays for the disciples, asking God to give them joy. He asks that God keep his disciples, as well as anyone who follows them, from Satan.

He also says that he has given the disciples glory and that they will one day be one in the same way that Jesus and God are one. He asks that they may be in the same place as him so that they can see the glory that God has given him.

Chapter 18

This is the chapter in which Judas betrays Jesus. Judas comes with a group of men carrying weapons. Jesus asks who they are looking for, and they tell him they are looking for him. Jesus says that he is here. Peter takes out his sword and cuts off a servant's ear. Jesus tells him to put the weapon away and heals the man's ear.

Jesus goes with the armed men. They take Jesus before the priests to be tried and questioned about his teachings. Jesus answers by saying that the priests should question those who heard him teach.

At this time, Peter denies that he knows Jesus. The priests take Jesus before Pilate. Pilate sees no fault in him and offers to release him, but the crowd insists that Pilate release Barabbas instead. (There was a tradition that one prisoner would be released around the time of Passover.)

Chapter 19

They take Jesus, beat him, and make him wear a crown of thorns. They mock him by calling him the King of the Jews. Then the priests begin to yell, "Crucify him!" They convince Pilate to crucify him because Jesus claimed to be their king.

They force Jesus to carry his own cross to a hill where the crucifixions are performed, and they write a sign that says, “Jesus the Nazarene, the King of the Jews.” Jesus is then crucified between two others.



Jesus is then Crucified

The soldiers take his clothes and divide them up. Jesus dies on the cross. To make sure that he is dead, one of the soldiers stabs his side with a spear. Blood and water spurt out, indicating that he is dead.

Following that, one of the disciples, Joseph of Arimathea, and Nicodemus come and prepare his body for burial. Jesus is then buried.

Chapter 20

Mary Magdalene comes early to the tomb on the first day of the week and discovers that it is empty. She runs to tell Peter and “the disciple Jesus loved,” referring to John.



Mary Magdalene Discovers that the Tomb is Empty

They run to the tomb to see for themselves. They don't know what to think because they do not understand that he is supposed to rise from the dead. Then Mary, who is standing outside the tomb, sees two angels who ask why she is crying. She then turns and sees Jesus. She doesn't recognize him at first, but then he speaks to her, and she recognizes it is him.

Then Jesus appears to many of his disciples who are meeting together in a locked room. He shows them his hands and his side so that they may see that it is him. Thomas was not with them and did not believe them. Later, Jesus appears to them again. This time, Thomas is there, and Jesus allows him to put his fingers into the imprints of the nails and to put his hand inside the hole in his side. Jesus says, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."

Chapter 21

In this chapter, Peter and some of the other disciples go fishing. They don't catch anything all night. Then Jesus appears on the shore and tells them to try fishing on the other side. They don't recognize him, but they try it anyway—and their nets become so full that they aren't able to bring them in.

Then they realize it is Jesus. Peter is so excited he jumps in the water and swims to shore. John brings the boat back. Then they eat together. Jesus tells Peter to shepherd his sheep, and John writes, "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written."

Again, Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." — John 20:21

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